

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-17

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY CONCERNING HIS TRIP TO
LATIN AMERICA

" I WILL BE DEPARTING AT THE PRESIDENT' S REQUEST ON MAY 12
FOR A 17- DAY VISIT TO 8 LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES -- MEXICO,
NICARAGUA, VENEZUELA, PERU, COLOMBIA, BRAZIL, ARGENTINA AND
JAMAICA. I WILL BE HOLDING BUSINESS TALKS IN EACH CAPITAL
ON BILATERAL, HEMISPHERIC AND WORLD- WIDE ISSUES IN WHICH WE
ARE MUTUALLY INVOLVED, AND I WILL BE REPRESENTING THE
PRESIDENT AT THE ARGENTINE INAUGURATION. I HOPE THAT THE
VISIT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING OUR EVOLVING INTER-
AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP AS FIRM, AS REALISTIC, AND AS
EQUITABLE AS FRIENDS CAN MAKE IT.

PRESIDENT NIXON' S DECISION FOUR YEARS AGO TO PURSUE A LESS
INTRUSIVE ROLE IN THE HEMISPHERE HAS BEEN ERRONEOUSLY
PERCEIVED IN SOME QUARTERS AS AN ATTEMPT TO DISENGAGE FROM
OUR CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH THE HEMISPHERE. THE FACT IS
THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT THE SLIGHTEST INTEREST IN
DIMINISHING ITS CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH THE HEMISPHERE.
WE WANT TO STRENGTHEN AND PERPETUATE IT BY PLACING IT ON A
SOUNDER BASIS OF EQUALITY.

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WE BELIEVE THAT WE AND THE OTHER NATIONS OF THIS HEMISPHERE HAVE OVERCOME PAST RELATIONSHIPS COLORED BY U. S. PATERNALISM. WHAT WE ARE SEEKING INSTEAD IS AN ASSOCIATION BASED ON TRUST, CONFIDENCE AND A FIRM COMMITMENT TO MUTUALITY. BE IN STOCKHOLM MAY 15-20 AT THE INVITATION OF AMBASSADOR TALLROTH EXTENDED THROUGH SWEDISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON TO CONFER WITH SPORTS AND PHYSICAL FITNESS OFFICIALS AND OBSERVE PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES. STOCKHOLM ITINERARY AND HOTEL INFORMATION WILL BE FURNISHED SEPTEL.

4. CONRAD'S GERMAN ITINERARY FOLLOWS:

MAY 21-28: FRANKFURT, ESSO MOTOR HOTEL.

MAY 29: ENROUTE HEIDELBERG (STAY AT PATRICK HENRY QUARTERS, US ARMY BILLETS)

MAY 30: HEIDELBERG, MEET WITH MAJOR GENERAL HAYWARD, DEPUTY COMMANDER USAREUR, AND APPROPRIATE STAFF MEMBERS TO DISCUSS SPORTS/ PHYSICAL FITNESS ACTIVITIES FOR US ARMY PERSONNEL AND STUDENTS IN DEPENDENT SCHOOLS.

JUNE 1: WHILE IN HEIDELBERG VISIT HEILBRONN.

JUNE 2: ENROUTE GARMISCH- PARTENKIRCHEN

JUNE 3-9: PRIVATE LEAVE IN GARMISCH- PARTENKIRCHEN (STAY AT US ARMY RECREATION CENTER), WITH EXCURSIONS TO MUNICH, NUREMBERG, AND POINTS IN AUSTRIA.

5. FOREGOING PROVIDED FYI. PLEASE PROVIDE BY CABLE NAME OF OFFICER TO SERVE AS CONTACT POINT FOR LOVELL AND CONRAD AND, IF REQUESTED, RENDER APPROPRIATE UNCLASSIFIED

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ASSISTANCE. ROGERS

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